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WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUG. 12

ENGLAND'S REASONS

HE question has been asked re-peatedly, why did England permit herself to be led into war by the mere fact that Germany had invaded the neutral nation of Belgium when she stood quietly by while the Kaiser's forces prepared for war on her sworn ally, France?
The attitude of England can be

gium as a "buffer" State between France and Germany and England and Germany can be appreciated to the full. No such friendly relations exist between the neighboring nations of the continent as are enjoyed besting to an increase of American shiptween the United States and Canada, with their thousands of miles of muwith their thousands of miles of mutually undefended boundaries. On the other hand, the importance to France, for instance, of having a "buffer" between herself and Germany the fact that

as affording a barrier between Germany and the English coast very valuable in time of war. It was the first Napoleon who said, with his finger on the map of Belgium: "Antwerp is a gun leveled at the heart of England." By which he meant that with Germany or some other powerful nation in control of Antwerp and the country surrounding, it would be a country surrounding, it would be a the general interest of all elecomparatively easy matter to plan and ments engaged in or affected carry out a quick and effective invasion of Great Britain.

It is this fear at the heart of the English government that has driven England to take sides with Belgium. At all costs Belgium, from the English view, must not fall into the hands of Germany. Besides, it has been long recognized in England that the War Lord and the English King must It is this fear at the heart of the War Lord and the English King must sooner or later cross swords, and what more propitious time for England than the present?

FUSION AS LAST HOPE

OTHING is more significant of merce. at the expense of their associates American merchant marine. It was McCormick is trying in every way ment at once provide war risk insur possible to have Dean Lewis displaced ance at reasonable rates on both the himself substituted. It seems to be a sels engaged in over sea trade case of "every fellow for himself and" As further showing the c the devil take the hindermost."

Fusion talk has been rife for several weeks, and under cover of the William F. McCombs, chairman of war excitement the ambitious little
men who are on the two tickets that are to be made over-if certain bosses are successful-for the benefit of the President, said he found everythese same bosses, have been busy as body more interested in the war and nailers. But Dean Lewis has declared in protecting himself against financial more than once that there is nothing loss on account of the war than he in the fusion talk and A. Mitchell is in politics.

Palmer, one of the White House Everywhere twins, is understood to differ with Mc-Cormick, the other twin, on the fusion proposition.

dispatch to the New York Tribune from Oyster Bay says the fusion deal involves the joint support of Gifford Pinchot for United States Senator and the elimination of Palmer, the purpose being to defeat, if possible, Senator Penrose. It is all a nice little scheme to attempt to accomplish by the impossible mixing of oil and water what cannot be achieved in any other way. It may look very well on paper, but the trend toward the Republican ticket is so strong that all the machinations of the men feel their feet slipping will avail nothing.

Palmer knowes that he is more formidable as a candidate than chot and that any success of the Progressive movement would be mighty little service in furthering his

political ambitions. Those who are in touch with the political whirligig and understand the peculiar conditions in Pennsylvania will give mighty little consideration

to the fusion talk. The differences o the alleged principles which separate the Democratic and Progressive par-

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Speaker Clark, out of a long expe rience in Congress, realizes that furbetter understood in Europe than marine for Uncle Sam will be bucking here, where the importance of Belstrong public sentiment. He has al-

"buffer" between nersen and German, of donars annually. It is not a prize is well illustrated from the fact that had Belgium not intervened the hos-available American capital will had Belgium not intervened the hostilities of the past week would have been all conducted on French soil at the expense of French money and French lives.

In this respect Belgium is quite as important to England as to France are many neuron regularized under belgium in the sequence of important to England as to France are many more, registered under belas affording a barrier between Gerligerent flags, which will be purchas-

by foreign trade, should work for national unity of action in setting

trial organizations which have tele graphed to it for information regarding shipping. Its object is to co-operate with every effective agency for the extension of American com

the fear which grips the hearts of the Democratic reorganization bosses than the strenuous prompt passage of the bill now pendefforts of a few of them to form an ing in Congress which would provide alliance with the ultra-Progressives immediate means to increase the There appears to be little doubt that also recommended that the governon the Washington party ticket and hulls and cargoes of American ves-

As further showing the changed attitude of the Democratic leaders on the question of a merchant marine, ing expedition after a conference with

Everywhere the interest is allabsorbing on the proposition of ef-fective legislation looking to the crea-tion of a merchant marine that will still further increase American commerce and keep open the lanes of the sea to American industry. On this paramount issue a writer in the Nev

Paramount issue a writer in the New York Sun says:

Never before has a great nation been afforded such an opportunity as is now offered the United States. to secure and maintain a merchant marine commensurate with her size and rank in the commercial world. The opportunity has been created almost over night and must be grasped almost as quickly—merchant ships are needed at once, and as they cannot be built in time, they must be bought, and bought immediately. If the opportunity between the securing of the necessary securing of the necessary securing of the necessary securing of the necessary was the securing of the necessary was the securing of the necessary was the securing of the necessary securing of the necessary securing the sortly be hundreds of foreign vessels for sale—this country will enter upon an era of prosperous foreign trade that even the most optimistic did not dream of but a few weeks ago. Already South America, the Orient and the neutral countries of the world are crying for American foodstuffs, farm products, machinery and practically every commodity, for the great European war has completely demoralized and upset the commerce of the world. York Sun says:

EVENING CHAT

the diseased principles which separates the Democratic and Progressive part on the same these would be as arrotesque as a fewer match. Conseque as a fewer match consequence as a fewer match consequence as a fewer match and the service as officiency of the flower many of the service as officiency of the service of the

Just what actuated several people to visit the top of the Capitol dome during yesterday's storm could not be told, but there were several persons noticed on the narrow balcony far up over the city just about the time the 2 o'clock storm broke. They were standing holding to the railing and apparently facing a stiff wind. Suddenly they ducked and went inside, it being evident that rain had struck them. About three minutes later rain began to fall hard in Third street far beneath them. There are some odd places to be in a storm and the top of the Capitol is one of them.

People around telegraphic offices these days are taking a big interest these days are taking a big interest in war stuff and occasionally people who know dots and dashes can get an inkilng. However, the use of code is so general now that unless a man is hooked up he is liable to get hold of the wrong thing. For example, Erg-land is just FCP, pursivice visits and the sound agree to get off the titket in favor of the User Democrats over the other Democrats would refuse to get off the tittle Bost that even if Lewis should agree to get off the titket in favor of the Democrats would agree to get off the titket in favor of the Jemson that some of the Democrats would refuse to go with his scheme. William N. McNair, candiscate for Congress-at-large are said to be resolutely opposed to making scriftices of themselves in favor of Bull Moosers whose national policies, as enunciated by Roosevelt, are all against Wilson, or to offer themselves of wilson hereabouts, could make deals with Bull Moosers on congressional nominations is not elucibuded by the is liable to get hold of the wrong thing. For example, Erg-

People around telegraphic offices these days are taking a big interest in war stuff and occasionally people who know dots and dashes can get an inkiling. However, the use of code is so general now that unless a man is hooked up he is liable to get hold of the wrong thing. For example, England is just EG; Russia is RUS; Turkey is TK, and so on. Of course, there are all sorts of combinations on these words and others. Just how they are worked out may be understood when it is said that champion of the world is sent just plain COW.

To-day was a peach market and



FUSION HANGING

The clouded Democratic outlook, the possibilities of fusion and the problems of patronage, prospective and already divided, were themes of conference at Night the night at the country home of McCormick last night. The men who "conferred,"

To-day was a peach market and there were tons and tons of the lusticolous fruit on sale about the city. Some of the baskets offered were at prices which were lower than known in years and which may not be reached again for a long, long time. The thrifty housewives are buying their peaches for canning now, because next winter they will be worth something, as Europe will be buying our fruit.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—John Bach McMaster, the Philadelphia historian, about whose safety fears were entertained, has been heard of in London.

—S. C. Purves, the Philadelphia banker, has returned from a month's vacation.

—P. C. Knox and his family are at White Sulphur, Va.

—William H. Peck, elected to the





By Wing Dinger

These Girls I wonder how old you are? I just told you my age. Yes; that's what set me to wonder-ing.

TWAS EVER THUS

I ran across a fellow, About two months ago, Who kicked about the weather. He said, "I'll tell you, bo, This dry spell's going to put all The crops upon the bum, And things will cost like sixty If rain don't shortly come."

I saw this same chap Monday, He's on his vacashe now, And on the same old subject He kicked up quite a row. He said, "It beats the dickens How dry the weather stays For months till my vacation, And then it rains for days."

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NEWS DISPATCHES OF THE CIVIL WAR

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

THE DEMOCRATIC OUTLOOK

THE DEMOCRATIC OUTLOOK

[From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.]
The administration is fortunate that it will escape more than general observation in the immediate future. Congress can work more or less under cover. The anti-business crusade is hidden by war fog. We surmise, however, that protagonists of American commercial achievement beyond the seas will hold the nation's attention hereafter. We enter an era calling for constructive men; the page of inconocommercial achievement beyond the seas will hold the nation's attention hereafter. We enter an era calling for constructive men; the page of inconocommercial achievement been turned. The page of season of the constructive men; the page of season of the constructive men; the page of season of the constructive men; the page of season of the constructive legislation and administration, if it sustains a policy that actually begins the rehabilitation of the merchant marine, if it is able to minimize the effects of the war by wise aceptance of the opportunities it offers, it may oe able to beat back the tide which for months has been setting against it. If, on the other hand, it is a short war, and the conduct of American affairs during its progress is characterized by incapacity and subterfuge, the great Democratic majority in the House will melt into an innocuous minority.

The Kaiser and King George are cousins and the mother of the Czar and of King George are sisters; so it is a sort of a family quarrel.—Philadelphia Ledger.

IN HARRISBURG FIFTY YEARS AGO TO-DAY

From the Telegraph, Aug. 12, 1864] On and after Monday next, the price of new milk will be 10 cents per quart; skimmed milk, 5 cents; cream, 16 cents.

Robbed of \$50 A man named John Carson, of Mer-ersburg, was robbed of about \$50 at the depot yesterday.

TEUTON AND SLAV

If Austria-Hungary's ambitious plans for expansion southward to Salonica had materialized, the Dual Monarchy would have become more overweighted than ever with non-German populations. Instead of being one-fifth German, it would have become one-seventh or one-eighth German. The Slav peoples have never been Germanized, nor have the other non-German elements. If Austria-Hungary should enlarge its territory at the end of the present war it would be more than ever a congloment of the end of the present war it would be more than ever a congloment of the end of the present war it would be more than ever a congloment of the end of the present war it would have german Austria has never assimilated the subject races, and Prussia's experience with Schleswig-Holstein, Prussian Poland and Alsace-Lorraine points similarly to the conclusion that the German body politic has only a minimum of assimilative power.

So far as the present war is concerned, the cry of Teuton against Slav is a delusion. Nor can much more value be allowed to the plea that Germany is fighting the battle of Western European civilization against the Eastern European races. It would be a queer championship of Western European civilization which arrayed Germany and Austria-Hungary—the latter four-fifths non-German—against Great Britain, Belgium and France. From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

TO A WEATHER-BEATEN LID

[From the New York Tribune.]
My old straw hat has served me well
Through many years and gosh! it
Mates me so mad to hear Ma tell
How she would love to wash it.

Why scrub that lid? Its present stage Of cleanliness won't harm me. Ain't she got no respect for age? Why needlessly alarm me?

She says: "I'll make it look like new They'll think you've bought anothe But I just shrug and scowl; for you Can't argue with a mother.

You bet I'd rather be a tramp
Than hear the boys all holler:
"Well, look who's here!" and "Will
you lamp
That New Straw For One Dollar!"
FREDDIE.



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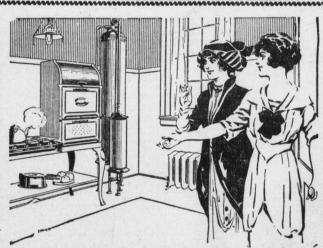
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